

CLASSIFICATION

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Finow Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 8 June 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1X SOURCE

1. Between 22 and 30 April 1953, air activity observed at Finow airfield included:
  - 22 April: At 6:30 p.m., three trucks, two with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, the other one with soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, left the air force cantonment at Finow, just east of the road to Biesenthal, south of the road to Brachlow. Each truck mounted a searchlight. After 7 p.m., MiG-15s with position lights set practiced flying. When the planes flew at an altitude of about 2,000 meters two searchlights went into operation, directed their beams at their aircraft, guided the plane for a while before being put out again. This maneuver was repeated several times. A short burst of fire was once heard from an aircraft.
  - 23 April: Day flying was practiced in formations of two and four. Some aircraft flew at high altitudes with vapor trails showing. The training included air combats. The weather was fair.
  - 24 April: Individual MiG-15s made local training flights. Weather was 5/10 overcast.
  - 25 April: There was no flying. At 10 a.m., nine jet bombers crossed the field in wedge formation. Weather was 8/10 overcast and visibility good.
  - 26 April: There was no flying in stormy weather with an 8/10 overcast.
  - 27 April: Local flying was practiced by four MiG-15s. Weather was 5/10 overcast and visibility good. Aircraft counted at the field at 6:30 p.m. included 45 MiG-15s and/or type-29 aircraft and four YAK-11s. An estimated 10 MiG-15s and/or type-29 aircraft and five YAK-11s were also observed. One of the aircraft of the alert flight had red No 2431.
  - 28 April: One type-29 aircraft with red No 341 was identified at the field.
  - 29 April: A few MiG-15s practiced local flying. Weather was 8/10 overcast and visibility good.
  - 30 April: There was little flying in clear weather.
2. On 27 April, the AAA emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field continued to be occupied by 6 x 37-mm guns.
3. At 7:15 p.m. on 28 April, five trucks [ ] proceeded from the direction of the Stern toward the airfield. Three of the trucks were loaded with one gray crate 2.5 to 3 x 1.7 x 1.5 meters, while the other two trucks were loaded with two crates each, which were half the size of the crates on the former trucks.
4. At 6:30 p.m. on 27 April, [ ] with 20 soldiers, probably guards, wearing black-bordered blue epaulets carrying submachine guns, left the cantonment south of the road to Brachlow. [ ] drove to the field.

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1.  Comment. According to available information, the headquarters of a fighter division and two fighter regiments are believed to be stationed at Finow airfield. There were no changes in the status of the field and the training activities observed there. The crates mentioned probably contained aircraft engines.

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